



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. .... 10/701,147  
FILING DATE ..... November 3, 2003  
INVENTORSHIP ..... Todd B. Wendle  
GROUP ART UNIT ..... 3677  
EXAMINER ..... Not yet assigned  
ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. .... WE51-002  
TITLE: Bundling Tie

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER AND CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: Randy A. Gregory  
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Enclosed are:

1. PTO Return Postcard Receipt
2. Transmittal Letter and Certificate of Mailing
3. Information Disclosure Statement with PTO Form 1449.

☒ Small Entity Status is claimed. ☐ Large Entity Status Applies.

**Authorization Re: Deposit Account:** The undersigned hereby authorizes the Patent and Trademark Office to charge Deposit Account 502881 for any fees or to credit any overpayments in connection with this application and the papers being filed herewith.

Date:

March 23, 2004

By:

Respectfully submitted,

Randy A. Gregory  
Randy A. Gregory  
Reg. No. 30,386  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify the items listed above as enclosed are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below-indicated date.

Dated:

3/24/04

Signature:  
Name:

Jane E. Boone  
Jane E. Boone



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Attorney's Docket No. . . . . WE51-002  
Title: . . . . . Bundling Tie

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This document is being submitted in an effort to comply with the duty of disclosure defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, specifically 37 CFR §1.56. The duty of disclosure imposed by the Patent Office extends to inventors, the applicant's attorneys, and others associated with the filing and prosecution of the patent application. It requires that all information known to such individuals which is material to the patentability of this invention be disclosed to the Patent Office.

The information being submitted is listed on the attached form PTO-1449. The listing includes patentee, patent number, and issue date. Foreign documents are identified by country, document number, and publication date. Magazine articles and other documents are identified by author, title, page no., date and place of publication. The Examiner is requested to make these citations of official record in this application. Copies are enclosed unless otherwise noted. Available translations of any foreign documents are submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.98(c).

The submission of this material is not an admission that the information is in fact prior art properly assertible against the application. The applicant(s) specifically reserve the right to question or prove that this information is not properly asserted against one

or more claims of this application or claims submitted in a derivative application.

This submission is being made pursuant to the following provision(s):


1. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(b)(1-2) - No fee is due because it is being submitted within three (3) months of the filing date or national stage entry date.
2. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3) - No fee is due because it is being submitted before the mailing date of the first office action on the merits.
3. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(c) - A fee is due because it is being submitted without a certification after the mailing date of the first office action on the merits and after 3 months from the filing date.
4. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(c) & (e) - This submission is before the mailing of a final action and before mailing of a notice of allowance. No fee is due because it is being submitted with a certification as provided below.
5. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(d) & (e) - This submission is being made before payment of the issue fee and after the mailing of a final action or after mailing of a notice of allowance. Also enclosed are a petition and the fee is either enclosed or should be withdrawn from the deposit account indicated in the transmittal letter.
6. ☒ 37 CFR §1.98(d) - Copies of some or all of the references are not being submitted because they were submitted in prior application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ upon which priority is claimed. Copies of any references not excepted under this provision are enclosed.
7. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(a)(3) - An explanation of the relevance of the references is not provided except unless this box is checked. If checked, then a concise explanation of the relevance is provided in connection with each item which is not in the English language.
8. ☐ Some or all of the references are incomplete. Applicant has submitted everything in possession.

Date:

March 23, 2004

By:

Randy A. Gregory  
Randy A. Gregory

Form PTO/F-2 		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. WE51-002		SERIAL NO. 10/701,147	
<b>LIST OF ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)						APPLICANT Todd B. Wendle	
						FILING DATE November 3, 2003	
						GROUP 3677	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	4,466,159	08/21/84	Burrage			
	AB	5,836,053	11/17/98	Davignon et al.			
	AC	5,581,850	12/10/96	Acker			
	AD	5,881,436	03/16/99	Lyons			
	AE	6,131,200	10/17/00	McNamara			
	AF	6,235,987B1	05/22/01	Gamaggio-Schafer			
	AG	D442,851S	05/29/01	Wilson			
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
							Yes      No
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							